

CLAIMS

1. A hair care device including hair combing means and means for adjusting effective teeth spacing between adjacent combing teeth, said hair combing means including a plurality of combing teeth, characterised in that at least
5 some of said combing teeth being thermally conductive so that heat can be conducted from said combing means to said hair via said thermally conductive combing teeth when said hair is being engaged under tension by said combing teeth.
2. A hair care device according to Claim 1, wherein engaging tension on said
10 hair being adjustable by varying the effective teeth spacing between said adjacent combing teeth.
3. A hair care device according to Claim 1, wherein said hair combing means including a first comb row and a second comb row each having a plurality of comb teeth, said first and said second comb rows being relatively movable
15 so that the effective teeth spacing transversely across said combing means being variable by relative movement of said first and said second comb rows, wherein, at least some of said comb teeth being thermally conductive so that, when hair is engaged under tension by said comb assembly, heat can be transmitted to said hair via said thermally conductive comb teeth.
- 20 4. A hair care device according to Claim 3, wherein at least some of the comb teeth on said first and second comb rows being adapted so that the effective

teeth spacing transversely across said combing means being adjustably by relative movements between said comb rows.

5. A hair care device according to Claim 4, wherein the width of said some of said comb teeth being comparable to their teeth spacing.
- 5 6. A hair care device according to Claim 4, wherein the width of said some of said comb teeth being comparable to the teeth spacing between correspondingly adjacent comb teeth.
7. A hair care device according to Claim 1 and including heating means, wherein said heating means being disposed so that heat generated by said heating means can be transferred from said heating means to the hair via said combing means.
- 10 8. A hair care device according to Claim 1, wherein said combing means including first combing means and second combing means which are relatively movable.
- 15 9. A hair care device according to Claim 8 and including a main housing, wherein said first combing means being movable relative to said main housing, said first combing means includes a first comb row, said second combing means includes second and third combs, said first, second and third comb rows being generally parallel and said first comb row being intermediate of said second and third rows, wherein the effective combing teeth spacing of said combing means transverse to said comb rows being adjustable by relative movements of said first, second and third comb rows.
- 20 10. A hair care device according to Claim 9, wherein said second and third combing rows being generally thermally conductive.

11. A hair care device according to Claim 9, wherein said second combing means including metallic combing teeth extending from a metallic base.
12. A hair care device according to Claim 9, wherein each of said first, second and third comb rows including a plurality of generally parallel combing teeth, wherein the teeth of said comb rows being adapted so that the effective teeth spacing across said combing means being adjustably by relative movements of said comb rows.
13. A hair care device according to Claim 9 and including a handle, said first and second combing means being respectively movable and stationary relative to said handle, the width of the teeth on said first combing means being comparable to the teeth spacing between corresponding adjacent teeth or teeth pairs on said second combing means so that the effective spacing across said combing means being adjustable by movement of said first combing means.
14. A hair care device according to Claim 13, wherein at least some of the teeth on said second combing means are thermally conductive so that when hair is engaged by said comb assembly, heat can be transmitted to said hair via said thermally conductive teeth.
15. A hair care device according to Claim 9 and including a handle, wherein relative movements between said first and said second combing means being actuatable by an actuation button which is pivotable about a hinge, the movable combing means being urged away from said handle while said button is being depressed.

16. A hair care device according to Claim 15, wherein said actuation button being under spring urge to return said movable combing means towards said handle when the actuation button is released.
17. A hair care device according to Claim 8, wherein said first and second
5 combing means being relatively translatable along a first orientation, said combing teeth being generally elongated and extending along a second orientation, wherein relative translation between said first and second combing means along said first direction will cause said elongated teeth on one combing means to traverse the spacing between adjacent teeth pairs on
10 the other combing means to vary the effective teeth spacing of said device, said means for adjusting said effective teeth spacing controls the relative translation between said first and second combing means.
18. A hair care device according to claim 17, wherein said means for adjusting said effective teeth spacing includes a rotatable wheel.
- 15 19. A hair care device according to claim 18, wherein a complete revolution of said rotatable wheel about its axis of rotation will move a combing tooth to a position previously occupied by an adjacent tooth.
20. A hair care device according to claim 18, wherein said rotatable wheel being connected to a turning knob, said turning knob including a screw-threaded
20 shaft, the longitudinal axis of said shaft being parallel to said first direction.
21. A hair care device according to claim 17, wherein said first and said second directions being substantially orthogonal.

22. A hair care device according to claim 8, wherein said means for adjusting said effective teeth spacing including means to gradually translate one of said combing means.
23. A hair care device according to claim 22, wherein said gradual translation of said one of said combing means being driven by a screw-threaded rotary shaft, the longitudinal axis of said screw-threaded shaft being parallel to said first direction.
24. A hair care device according to claim 22, wherein said teeth spacing adjusting means further include means to maintain said one of said combing means at pre-determined positions along said first direction.
25. A hair care device according to claim 22, wherein said pre-determined positions correspond to discrete settings of the effective teeth spacing of said device.
26. A hair care device according to claim 8, wherein the teeth spacings on said first and second combing means being generally equal.
27. A hair care device according to any one of claims 9 to 22, wherein said main housing include a hollow member with an air-inlet, an air-outlet, and a neck portion interconnecting said air-inlet and said air-outlet, said comb members being disposed at said air-outlet with said teeth pointing away from said air-outlet.
28. A hair care device according to claim 27, wherein said main housing includes means for coupling to the nozzle of a hair care apparatus with a blower.

29. A device according to claim 8, wherein said device being a hair brush or hair brush attachment wherein said teeth are formed from bristles and said second direction along which said bristles extend being radial from the longitudinal axis of said brush.
- 5 30. A hair care apparatus including an air blower and a hair care device of any of the preceding claims.
31. A hair care device comprising:
- a main housing;
 - at least a first comb mounted on said housing;
 - 10 - at least one second comb mounted on said housing on a generally parallel axis to said first comb and movable with respect to said first comb along said parallel axis such that teeth on said second comb may move intermediate of said teeth on said first comb to reduce the teeth spacing in a transverse direction;
 - 15 - actuating means to actuate movement of said second comb; and
 - a pressure limiting mechanism to inhibit further movement of said second comb once a threshold pressure against further movement be reached caused by hair intermediate of the teeth of said first and second combs.
- 20 32. A hair care device as claimed in claim 31 wherein said second comb member is biased by a first biasing means towards a position in which teeth of said first and second combs are substantially in line with each other in said transverse direction.

33. A hair care device as claimed in claim 32 wherein said actuating mechanism overcomes said first biasing means to actuate movement of said second comb.
34. A hair care device as claimed in claim 32 wherein said pressure limiting
5 mechanism comprises a second biasing means acting on or within said actuating mechanism to allow further movement of said actuating mechanism without further movement of said second comb once a threshold of said second biasing means has been reached.
35. A hair care device as claimed in claim 34 said actuating mechanism
10 includes button actuatable by a user and an indirect connection between said button and said second comb whereby said indirect connection includes said second biasing means.